

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are all the claims pending in the application.

Applicants have amended claims 1-34 to better conform the claims to the English language and U.S. patent practice. In addition, claims 3, 11, 19 and 22-34 have been amended to cover different features of applicant's claimed invention. Claims 6, 7, 14 and 15 have been amended to address antecedent basis issues. Claims 10-13 have been amended to change their dependency. The amendments are not related to patentability and are not intended to narrow any of the claims. Therefore, no estoppel has been created.

Applicants have also amended the specification and Abstract to make it consistent with the drawings. No new matter has been added.

DRAWINGS

The Office Action Summary does not indicate whether the drawings have been accepted. Applicant requests that the Examiner accept the drawings in the next Office Action.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art (APA), and in view of Beamish et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,256,476). Applicant traverses the rejections because the asserted art fails to disclose or suggest all of the claim limitations. Specifically, with respect to the independent claims, at least the following limitations are not disclosed or suggested:

1. a communication monitor circuit for *detecting quality deterioration of radio communication with mobile stations*
6. a communication state monitor circuit coupled to said receivers for *detecting quality deterioration of a communication state of radio communication between said base station and said mobile stations*
14. a communication state monitor circuit coupled to said receivers for *detecting quality deterioration of a communication state of radio communication between said base station and said mobile stations*
22. monitoring, at said base station, *a communication state of radio communication between said base station and said mobile stations*
27. detecting, at said base station, *quality deterioration of a communication state of radio communication between said base station and said mobile stations*

First, the Examiner concedes that the APA fails to disclose the above limitations. In order to overcome these deficiencies, the Examiner cites to Beamish et al. However, as discussed below, Beamish et al. does not disclose or suggest the missing limitations.

Beamish et al. is directed to cordless telephones consisting of a mobile unit (or handset) and a base station. Col. 1, lines 16-18; figure 1. As a result, Beamish et al. discloses a base station that measures the quality of the signals from one mobile unit. On the other hand, the claimed invention requires that the base station monitor the communication state of a plurality of mobile stations. Thus the claimed “communication state of said radio communication” refers to

the quality of a group of individual communications between the mobile stations and the base station. The quality determination feature/circuit in Beamish et al. is more comparable to the SNR determining circuit in figures 1, 4, 8, 10 and 13, which monitors the quality of an individual communication between one mobile unit and the base station, rather than the communication state monitoring circuit, which monitors the quality of a plurality of individual communications between a plurality of mobile units and the base station.

Regarding the dependent claims, they should be allowable at least based on their dependence from the independent claims above for at least the same reasons. In addition, regarding claims 2, 5, 10, 13, 18, 21, 23, 26, 31 and 34, each of these claims require that the total interference electric power be monitored. Neither the APA nor Beamish et al. disclose or suggest monitoring or measuring the total interference electric power of a plurality of communications between a plurality of mobile stations and a base station.

Likewise, regarding claims 3, 11, 19, 24 and 32, each of these claims require that signal to noise ratios be monitored. Neither the APA nor Beamish et al. disclose or suggest monitoring or measuring signal to noise ratios of a plurality of communications between a plurality of mobile stations and a base station.

Likewise, regarding claims 4, 12, 20, 25 and 33, each of these claims require that the TPC bit signals be monitored. Neither the APA nor Beamish et al. disclose or suggest monitoring or measuring the TPC bit signals of a plurality of communications between a plurality of mobile stations and a base station.

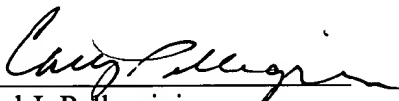
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Finally, regarding claims 7, 15 and 28, each of these claims require that an increase in transmission power is suppressed when the quality of transmission decreases. Beamish does disclose decreasing transmission power. However, the decrease is not based a decrease in transmission quality.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


Carl J. Pellegrini
Registration No. 40,766

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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